

While overseas the 18th Battalion received 2,816 reinforcements, all ranks, a total of 3,953 passing through its ranks.

Total war casualties in the unit were 2,877, including 78 officers. Of these, 770 (including 21 officers) were killed or died of wounds and 36 were reported missing. The records show that three officers and 32 other ranks of the 18th Battalion, names and numbers unknown, were buried by the 15th Canadian Infantry Battalion at Martinpuich in the Somme.

Casualties in the ranks of the original unit were 617, including 9 officers. Killed in action or died of wounds — 2 officers and 119 other ranks.

Reinforcement casualties totalled 2,260, including 69 officers. Killed in action or died of wounds — 19 officers and 630 other ranks.

The Victoria Cross was posthumously awarded Lance-Sergeant Ellis W. Sifton for his courageous action in wiping out an enemy machine-gun post at Vimy Ridge on April 9th, 1917.

Other decorations to officers and men of the 18th Battalion include:

| | | | |
|-------------|-----|------------------------------|----|
| C.M.G. | 1 | Mentioned in Despatches | 14 |
| D.S.O. | 11 | Médaille Militaire | 2 |
| M.C. | 35 | Italian Iron Medal | 1 |
| D.C.M. | 16 | French Croix de Guerre | 2 |
| M.S.M. | 4 | English Bronze Medal | 3 |
| M.M. | 175 | | |

Twenty-nine of the original rank and file won commissions on the field.

Battle honours inscribed on the 18th Battalion Colours deposited in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, Ontario, include:—

| | | |
|------------|---------------|-----------------|
| The Somme | Passchendaele | Cambrai |
| Vimy Ridge | Amiens | Hindenburg Line |
| Hill 70 | Arras | Pursuit to Mons |

Commanding Officers of the 18th Battalion were:—

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Lt.-Col. E. S. Wigle | — Oct. 22, 1914 — July 8, 1916 |
| Lt.-Col. H. L. Milligan, D.S.O. | — Jul. 8, 1916 — Oct. 9, 1916 |
| Lt.-Col. G. F. Morrison, D.S.O. | — Oct. 9, 1916 — Apr. 19, 1917 |
| Lt.-Col. L. E. Jones, C.M.G., D.S.O. | — Apr. 19, 1917 — May 24, 1919 |

On 19th June, 1932, a tablet was unveiled in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, Ontario, to the memory of the officers and other ranks who gave their lives in the Great War.

By forming branches of the 18th Battalion Association in many cities and towns of Western and Central Ontario and establishing a General Council with headquarters at London, veterans of the 18th Battalion have carried on the traditions and the "esprit de corps" of the unit and have kept up the comradeships of the Great War days by holding annual reunions at various cities in the Province.

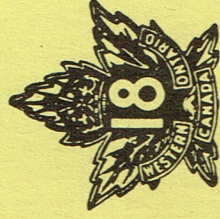
"THE FIGHTING EIGHTEENTH"

A Brief History

of the

18TH BATTALION, C.E.F.
(Western Ontario Regiment)

1914 - 1919



"While there may have been a unit in the Corps as efficient as the 18th Battalion, there was none better." General Sir Julian Byng, Canadian Corps Commander 1916-17.

47th Annual Reunion
King Edward Stadium, Toronto
May 21st and 22nd
1961